

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-12 were pending. Claim 10 is allowed, and claim 12 was indicated as being allowable. The remaining claims were rejected under 35 USC 102 or 103.

Herein, the specification is amended to correct typographical errors, and to address the Examiner's objection to the Abstract. The text added to the Abstract is from page 10, paragraph 0034 of the Specification. No new matter is added.

Allowable claim 12 is cancelled, and its features are added to claim 11. Accordingly, claim 11 is in a condition of allowance.

Claims 1-7 are amended to remove unnecessary limitations. New claims 25-28 are added. Support for the new claims may be found in paragraphs 00291-334, and the figures cited therein (Figs. 28A-31). No new matter is added.

Claim 1 was rejected pursuant to USC 102e based on U.S. Patent 6,654,342 ("Dittia"). The rejection is, respectfully, traversed. For instance, claim 1 includes the "wherein each blade outputs serial data streams." Dittia does not even include the word "serial," and does not show this feature. Further, the Examiner's citation to col. 4, lines 35-51 of Dittia as showing the feature of "a level monitor at a receiving blade that monitors levels of the data received and stored at the receiving blade" is not supported by the cited text. Dittia states that "flow control information is delivered to the line card for and/or from each destination." This is not a "level monitor" that "monitors levels of the data received and stored," but rather is merely a repository of flow control information generated elsewhere. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims should be withdrawn.

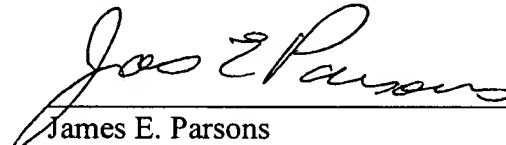
Claim 7 was rejected pursuant to 35 USC 103 over Dittia and US. Patent 6473433 ("Bianchini"). However, the rejection of claim 7 is respectfully traversed, because Dittia fails to

show the step of “monitoring the levels of data stored in each said data structure.” Again, the Examiner cites to col. 4, lines 36-51 of Dittia, but again, there is only discussion of a repository of flow control information, no “monitoring the levels of data stored in each said data structure.”

Accordingly, the rejections of the independent claims are not supported, and should be withdrawn.

Please direct any questions or comments to the undersigned at 408 207 1323.

Respectfully submitted,


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